

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WESTFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 10, 2020
Westfield Municipal Building

COUNCIL PRESENT: Gail Bollinger, Roger McCullen, Leland (Joe) Pond, Ed Rodarmel, Shaunta Vahey, Roxann Weidman

COUNCIL ABSENT: Denis Landry

OTHERS PRESENT: James Streeter, Ashley H., Penny Moore, Roger Moore, Lorie Card, Josh Magnotta, Shawn Ianson, Gary Bisel, Shawn Downey, Kelly Stemcosky, Laura Clarson, Terry Wells, Andrew Adams, Lori Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by council president Bollinger. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. The roll call of members found Denis Landry to be absent. The visitors were addressed.

Visitors

- Shawn Downey with Larson Design Group gave a history of the headworks procurement. After discussion of the fees involved, for PennVest reimbursement Mr. Downey recommends doing an engineering agreement amendment adding the additional items and costs under the headworks procurement portion of the project to the total project cost. It will be “cleaner” for the PennVest reimbursement.

Motion was made by Shaunta Vahey, seconded by Joe Pond, to adopt Amendment No. 1 to the Owner-Engineer Agreement with Larson Design Group. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

Mr. Downey reported on the notices of award for the construction contracts, discussed the history and the phases suggested for the H2O grant. Lobar received the changes, had comments and these have been sent to the solicitor for review. Mr. Downey is waiting to hear back from Mr. Lantz. Mr. Downey recommends awarding the contract contingent upon solicitor review. He has a notice of award for Lobar and one for Tra Electric.

Motion was made by Shaunta Vahey, seconded by Roxann Weidman, to execute the Notice of Award for Contract #1 and Contract #2 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project contingent upon solicitor review and approval. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

An update was given on the H2O grant.

- Stray Cats

Lorie Card addressed council concerning the stray cat problem in the borough; she brought it up about a year ago. Laura Clark from Second Chance Animal Sanctuaries spoke on the Trap-Neuter-Release Program and some history on the program in Elkland and Mansfield. She has been asked about doing a program in Westfield. Gail Bollinger noted that council would have no

objection. There was discussion on how to implement a program in Westfield, such as fundraising and who would coordinate the program. It was asked if council could fund the program, but the borough cannot donate directly. Lorie Card and Penny Moore will help with the program. The borough will help identify areas where cats collect.

- Crary Hose Company was represented by Shawn Ianson and Gary Bisel, trustees. Shawn Ianson gave a history of calls and the recent increase due to QRS status. The company is trying to combine trucks and do a fleet reduction. A new truck was just purchased and he offered a tour after the meeting. They would like to purchase a 1-ton pickup truck set up for QRS calls and are asking for donations toward the truck. Mr. Ianson stated there are two options: to ask for donations toward the truck or to start billing by call volume. The approximate cost of the truck is about \$56,000, the base price about \$30,000 and this what they are asking for assistance with. The finance committee will meet about funding and will meet with the townships. Mrs. Bollinger noted that the 2020 budget is done.

Mr. Ianson reported a bay door with a bad lifter and asked to have it replaced.

Mayor/Police Chief Report

The monthly police report was submitted.

Minutes

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Ed Rodarmel, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting as presented. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

Financial Report

Motion was made by Shaunta Vahey, seconded by Joe Pond, to accept the financial report. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

PennVEST Rate Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-317
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WESTFIELD
COVENANTING TO ESTABLISH SEWER RATES
SUFFICIENT TO PAY OPERATING EXPENSES AND ALL
SUMS DUE ON EXISTING DEBT AND THE PENNVEST
LOAN TO CONSTRUCT IMPROVEMENTS TO ITS PUBLIC
SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, this Borough is governed by its Council and is existing under the Pennsylvania Borough Code and has the power to set rates and other charges served by its public sanitary sewer system facilities (the "Sewer System");

WHEREAS, this Borough has determined to undertake a capital project to design and construct improvements to its Sewer System which will be financed through the issuance of a Debt Obligation to the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (the "2020 PennVest Loan"), and secured by a pledge of and security interest in the Borough's Sewer System revenues and accounts and by its taxing power; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that the Sewer System revenues are sufficient to pay the additional debt service due on the 2020 PennVest Loan, as well as any existing debt secured by the Sewer System, it will be necessary to increase Sewer System rates and charges.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of this Borough, as follows:

SECTION 1. This Borough covenants to take appropriate action to increase Sewer System rates and charges to be made effective not later than three (3) months prior to the start of principal amortization on the 2020 PennVest Loan, as follows:

Residential Charge per month, up to 1000 cubic feet of water usage	\$70.00
Residential Charge per month per 100 cubic feet over minimum	\$ 6.50
Commercial Charge per month up to 1,000 cubic feet of water usage	\$84.00
Commercial Charge per month per 100 cubic feet over minimum	\$ 6.50
Industrial and School, per person per month	\$ 6.50
RV Parks – The greater of one commercial charge per month	\$84.00
OR one thirtieth (1/30) of the residential charge per day for	
Each vehicle day [\$2.80 X vehicle days].	
Charge per month per 100 cubic feet over minimum	\$ 6.50
Minimum = [1000 cu.ft. X (vehicle days ÷ 30)]	

SECTION 2. Such increases will be sufficient to pay costs of operation and the debt service due on the 2020 PennVest Loan, as well as other debt obligations secured by Sewer System revenues.

SECTION 3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions inconsistent herewith expressly are repealed.

Motion was made by Shaunta Vahey, seconded by Joe Pond, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-317, a rate resolution for the PennVEST loan. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

Vacancy Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-318

A RESOLUTION TO FILL A VACANCY ON COUNCIL

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Westfield Borough Council, Tioga County, Pennsylvania;

WHEREAS, a registered voter needs to be appointed to fill this vacancy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Westfield, Tioga County, Pennsylvania, that Denis Landry be appointed to fill this vacancy.

RESOLVED this 10th day of March, 2020.

Motion was made by Roger McCullen, seconded by Joe Pond, to adopt Resolution 2020-318 appointing Denis Landry to the vacancy on council. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

TCAB

The Tioga County Association of Boroughs meeting will be held in Blossburg March 19.

Legislative Breakfast

Develop Tioga will host the Legislative Breakfast on April 23. Please let the office know if you wish to attend.

Visitors

Terry Wells approached council about a conflict of interest between the police department and a person that was arrested in Westfield. She noted that this normally does not need to be asked, but asked that any calls going forward for this person not be handled by the Westfield Police Department. Ms. Card added that the citizens want the police chief removed and asked how to do this. Several incidents were cited. Discussion on a protest scheduled for Saturday was held.

WCAA Franchise

A letter was received from the Westfield Community Antenna Association asking to void their franchise with Westfield Borough.

Motion was made by Shaunta Vahey, seconded by Joe Pond, to void the franchise agreement with the Westfield Community Antenna Association. Those in favor were McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. Gail Bollinger abstained due to conflict of interest. The motion carried.

WBA

Motion was made by Roxann Weidman, seconded by Ed Rodarmel, to reappoint David Nudd to the Westfield Borough Authority. Those in favor were Bollinger, McCullen, Pond, Rodarmel, Vahey and Weidman. The motion carried.

Committees

Personnel Committee – nothing

Planning/Fire Committee – nothing

Streets/Buildings Committee – nothing

- Vehicle Maintenance Committee

The 2008 Ford F-350 will be advertised for the April council meeting.

Insurance Committee – nothing

- Utilities Committee

The utilities committee will meet concerning a request for water on Stone Quarry Road. Also they will set up a meeting with Westfield Township.

Motion was made by Roxann Weidman, seconded by Roger McCullen, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Lori Nelson
Secretary/Treasurer